

Sen. Dodd Ordered Billings, His Former Aide Declares

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Sen. Thomas J. Dodd's former office manager says that any multiple billing for the recovery of Dodd's airline fares "was done solely because of the senator's specific instructions to me to do so."

Michael V. O'Hare, who resigned from Dodd's staff in January, yesterday in an interview denied Dodd's statement of last week that O'Hare "was delegated absolute responsibility for my bookkeeping."

O'Hare's comments came after it was disclosed that airfare for Dodd's wife on a February 1964 Washington-Los Angeles round trip was paid by the senator's Connecticut campaign committee.

Dodd last Friday had said that Mrs. Dodd's \$320.78 airline bill was paid by the Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Panel Has Information

The Senate Ethics Committee, investigating allegations of misconduct against Dodd, D-Conn., has compiled information showing that he was reimbursed three times for the trip—by his campaign committee, the Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Senate.

"We are now making a thorough review of the expense allocation made by O'Hare of Sen. Dodd's travel expenses over the years involved," a Dodd aide said yesterday.

"In the meantime, until our review of this matter has been completed, we can only ask as a matter of simple fairness that any judgment on this matter by anyone be withheld."

O'Hare Comments

O'Hare said yesterday that from 1961 to early this year, the period during which he handled Dodd's financial records, he was "aware of numerous occasions on which there was a double billing for travel and expenses."

O'Hare added: "This was solely because of the senator's specific instructions to do so."

Dodd last week said "because of my many official duties, I did not have time to review the details of O'Hare's work. It was his responsibility to allocate expenses between official and personal matters and to process necessary travel vouchers."

In the same statement, Dodd said he billed the Senate for reimbursement of travel expenses on the Los Angeles trip because it was in conjunction with an official investigation into drug addiction and interstate shipment of firearms.

Those expenses were charged to the Senate Judiciary Committee's subcommittee on Juvenile Delinquency, which Dodd heads.

While in Los Angeles, Dodd addressed a Junior Chamber of Commerce banquet. When it was reported that he received reimbursement from that organization, he said the payment was for his wife's trip.

He said the Junior Chamber "had expressed the hope that Mrs. Dodd would accompany me on my trip" and agreed to pay for her travel expenses.

Dodd's office yesterday released two telegrams from Victor Stark, executive secretary of the Junior Chamber, confirming the senator's account of the financial arrangements.

When James P. Boyd, another former Dodd aide, charged last week that the senator was reimbursed a third time through his campaign fund, Dodd said "I am assured that no expenses for this trip were paid from my campaign funds."

But yesterday it was learned that the Ethics Committee has information that Mrs. Dodd's airfare was billed to the Dodd campaign committee, which had collected funds in Connecticut to finance the senator's successful 1964 bid for reelection.

In another development, yesterday, Sen. John C. Stennis, chairman of the Ethics Committee, made public a July 14 letter written to him by Richard Helms, director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

The letter said Dodd had been

in contact with the CIA before and after his controversial trip to West Germany in April 1964.

Trip's Purpose a Key Issue

The purpose of Dodd's 6-day trip was a key issue in the committee's recent hearings on Dodd's relations with Julius Klein, Chicago public relations man and registered agent for West German business interests.

Stennis said in a statement making Helms' letter public that it was "handed to me by a representative of the CIA who stated that it was in response to inquiries made by Sen. Dodd."

Earlier when reporters asked Dodd if he had asked for the CIA letter, his answer was "No."

Dodd testified at the committee's hearings that the purpose of his trip to West Germany in April 1964 was to investigate the Soviet terror apparatus for the Senate Internal Security subcommittee, of which he is vice-chairman.

"Sen. Dodd and his assistant, David Martin, were in contact with representatives of this agency intermittently both before and after the senator's trip to Germany in April of 1964 in an effort to obtain as much information on the subject as could be made public at that time," Helms said in his letter.

Stennis, in making the letter public, said Dodd's attorney had offered it as evidence at the conclusion of a hearing last week; but that a decision on its admissibility was deferred. The chairman said at the committee's next meeting he will recommend it be admitted into the record.

Helm's letter said that in response to Dodd's requests, the CIA cooperated with the Internal Security panel in the preparation of its study "by providing certain background material on Soviet murders, assassinations and kidnapings."

"Particular attention was given to the case of Bogdan Stashynsky by the subcommittee and this agency," Helms added, "since a great deal of in-

formation about the case was a matter of record and could be made public."

Dodd testified that in connection with his investigation he arranged to interview Stashynsky, who was convicted by a West German court in 1962 on two counts of aiding and abetting a murder.

Dodd, meanwhile, was to submit to questioning behind closed doors today in connection with a \$2 million dollar libel suit he has filed against columnists Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson.